

REMARKS

With this Amendment, Applicant adds new claim 22. Therefore, claims 1-22 are all the claims currently pending in the present Application

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The Examiner alleges that claim 1 fails in complying with the enablement requirement because the specification does not disclose that “the electric current value of said light source used when reading said image is identical with said electric current value set by said light amount regulating means” as recited by claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that the above subject matter of this claim is supported by the specification, particularly by page 3, lines 5-11, page 10, line 27 through page 12, line 26, page 15, lines 6-8, page 21, lines 8-13, and FIG. 3. It should be determined that no new matter is added. The regulating circuit outputs an electric current value E_c , which is used to drive a light source. Identical language need not appear in the specification to support the claim.

According to the specification including the above particular parts, an electric-current value determined through binary search¹ is used in reading an image. Through binary search, the image reader can find an electric-current value E_c which can produce an output value F of the CCD falling within a predetermined range. Subsequently, the newly found E_c is used in reading an image. In other words, the current value which has been set (i.e., obtained through binary search) is the current value which is used in reading an image. Thus, the above subject matter in claim 1 is correctly describing the embodiment disclosed in the specification.

¹ See page 10, line 27 through page 12, line 26, and corresponding FIG. 3

Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 1 and dependent claims 2-21 should be allowable.

With this Amendment, Applicant adds new claims 22 in order to more fully cover an aspect of Applicant's invention as disclosed in the specification and to provide a more general scope of protection. Applicant respectfully requests the entrance and allowance of these new claims.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

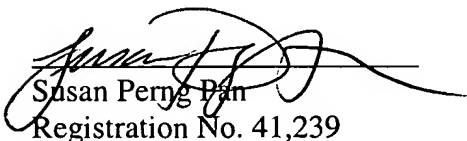
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